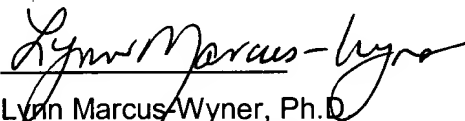


REMARKS

With entry of the instant amendment, claims 23 - 27, 29 - 31, 33 - 40, 42 - 44 and 46 - 51 are pending. In the office action dated March 26, 2003, claims 23 - 27, 29 - 31, 33 - 40, 42 - 51 were finally rejected, and claims 39, 40, 43, 47, 48 and 51 were indicated as allowed.

Claim 45, which was dependent on claim 38 and was redundant of step (b) in claim 38, has been canceled by this amendment. Additionally, the dependency of claim 46 has been changed. This claim now depends from claim 38 as opposed to claim 45.

Respectfully submitted,


Lynn Marcus-Wyner, Ph.D.
Registration No. 34,869

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Genencor International, Inc.
925 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, CA 94304
Tel: 650-846-7620
Fax: 650-845-6504